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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/779,689	02/08/2001	Kiran M. Das	13257-00031	6769

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EXAMINER

NOLAN, PATRICK J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1644	

DATE MAILED: 11/04/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/779,689

Applicant(s)

Das et al.

Examiner

Patrick J. Nolan

Art Unit

1644

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on Aug 14, 2002

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) 1-11 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 12-16 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____

6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-15 and newly added claim 16 is pending.
2. Claims 1-11 stand withdrawn from further consideration by the Examiner, 37 C.F.R. § 1.142(b) as being drawn to non-elected inventions.
3. Claims 12-15 and newly added claim 16 are under consideration in the instant application.

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

4. Claims 12-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for a diagnostic method for detecting ulcerative colitis and inflammatory bowel disease in the colon comprising detecting CEP-hTM5 complexes with antibodies against CEP and hTM5, does not reasonably provide enablement for a diagnostic method for detecting any disease comprising detecting CEP-hTM complexes with antibodies against CEP and hTM. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

Applicant's arguments filed 8-14-02 have been fully considered but are not found persuasive. Applicant argues that regardless of whether CEP-hTM complexes are detected or not, such a finding does not render the diagnostic method unenabled. Applicant further that because experimentation may be complex it is not necessarily undue.

However, Applicant's own specification teaches that CEP expression is limited to colon. Furthermore, the name CEP, means colon epithelial protein. Furthermore when Applicant attempted to detect the CEP-hTM complexes in small intestine, a very similar tissue physiologically and anatomically to

colon, said complexes could not be found. In addition, detection of the other four types of hTM proteins were not found to be of any scientific value, see page 19 lines 6-10, in particular). Lastly, it ishTM5 is not recognized to be a universal autoantigen for any autoimmune disease, only for UC. Since CEP expression is limited to colon, and hTM5 autoantibodies are limited to detecting UC. The scope of the claimed invention is limited to detecting CEP-hTM5 complexes in colon of patients with UC.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

5. Claims 12-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Kesari et al. (*Clin Exp Immunol* 1999; 118: 219-227) of record, for reasons set forth in Paper No. 9.

Applicant's arguments filed 8-14-02 have been fully considered but are not found persuasive.

The declaration filed under 37 CFR 1.132 filed 8-14-02 is insufficient to overcome the rejection of claims 12-15 based upon 35 USC 102(a) as set forth in the last Office action because: declarant did not make an unequivocal positive statement asserting the reference publication is describing Applicant's own work. See MPEP 2132.01 which states: The rejection can also be overcome by submission of a specific declaration by the applicant establishing that the article is describing applicant's own work. *In re Katz*, 687 F.2d 450, 215 USPQ 14 (CCPA 1982).

Declarant's statement that the publication "might" disclose or suggest the instantly claimed subject matter is not sufficient. Furthermore, does not describe the role's of the coauthor's to authorship but not inventorship.

The following new ground of rejection is necessitated by Applicant's amendment filed 8-14-02.

Art Unit: 1644

6. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claim 16 has no support for circulating tissue in the originally filed claims or specification.

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for response to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the date of this action. In the event a first response is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event will the statutory period for response expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patrick Nolan whose telephone number is (703) 305-1987. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm.

9. If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Chan, can be reached at (703) 305-3973. The FAX number for our group, 1644, is (703) 305-7939. Any inquiry of a general nature relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist, whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Pat J. Nolan
Patrick J. Nolan, Ph.D.
Primary Examiner, Group 1640
11/3/02